



American MENSA®

AMERICAN MENSA LOCAL GROUP CHARTER LONESTAR MENSA

This Charter is granted on Monday, February 01, 2010, by American Mensa, Ltd., a New York nonprofit corporation with its principal place of business at 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington, Texas 76006 (hereinafter "AML"), to LONESTAR MENSA, Local Group 06/786, a currently existing Local Group (chapter) of AML.

I. PURPOSE

This Charter is a summary of relevant sections of the policy documents of Mensa International and American Mensa that together define and describe the purpose and relationship of a Local Group to and with the parent organization, AML, and is intended to serve as a clarification of the relationship between and a reiteration of the responsibilities of AML and LONESTAR MENSA.

II. DEFINITION OF LOCAL GROUP

- A. LONESTAR MENSA is a Local Group (chapter) of AML. Its membership comprises those members of AML who reside in the USPS ZIP Code areas as maintained by AML ('the Territory') and may increase or decrease by members declaring a preference for a specific Local Group of AML or as Local Group boundaries are evaluated and redefined.
- B. LONESTAR MENSA was recognized by AML on 11/1/1967.

III. CONFORMITY OF ACTIVITIES AND BYLAWS

- A. Both parties shall operate and conduct their business and affairs in accordance with all applicable local, state and national statutes and regulations, the *Constitution of Mensa*, *AML's Certificate of Incorporation*, the *American Mensa Bylaws*, and *AML's Actions Still In Effect*. In the event of a conflict, the conflict shall be resolved in favor of the first mentioned of the statutes, regulations, and documents listed above, in the order listed. Regardless of any possible conflict, AML owns and controls the use of the MENSA mark and logo in the United States.
- B. LONESTAR MENSA shall also operate and conduct their business and affairs in accordance with their bylaws and AML's Minimum Standard Bylaws as approved by the local membership and the AML Board of Directors via the AML Bylaws Committee. These bylaws were initially effective 1/1/2010.

IV. AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES

- A. AML's purposes are to identify and foster human intelligence for the benefit of humanity; to encourage research into the nature, characteristics, and uses of intelligence; and to provide a stimulating intellectual and social environment for its members. As a Local Group of AML, LONESTAR MENSA implements the purposes of AML in the Territory.
- B. AML empowers LONESTAR MENSA to sponsor and conduct membership meetings, programs and activities, issue newsletters and other publications, and conduct other activities primarily for the benefit of LONESTAR MENSA's members and community in fulfillment of Mensa's purposes as set forth in the *Constitution of Mensa* ("Authorized Activities").

V. FINANCES

- A. All funds disbursed by AML to LONESTAR MENSA are the property and responsibility of LONESTAR MENSA.
- B. All funds independently raised by LONESTAR MENSA are the property and responsibility of LONESTAR MENSA.
- C. Upon dissolution of LONESTAR MENSA, all funds shall be distributed to the Local Group(s) to which the members of LONESTAR MENSA are reassigned, according to the policies of AML.

VI. RESPONSIBILITIES

Inclusive of responsibilities listed in the *American Mensa Bylaws and Actions Still in Effect*, LONESTAR MENSA and AML shall have the following responsibilities.

- A. AML, as LONESTAR MENSA's affiliating organization, shall, as long as LONESTAR MENSA is in significant compliance with its responsibilities as set forth in this Charter and any applicable policies, provide:
1. Funding allotments in accordance with policies and funding formulas set by the American Mensa Committee (AMC).
 2. Monthly data and reporting, including the membership of the group, qualified candidates and prospects.
 3. Testing and marketing materials and support.
 4. National-level support in the form of a Regional Vice Chairman (RVC), AMC liaisons in key areas, and full-time national staff.
 5. Liability insurance and Directors & Officers insurance as set forth in *Actions Still in Effect*
 6. Leadership training materials and support.
 7. A royalty free, nonexclusive, and non-sublicensable license to LONESTAR MENSA for the use of AML's trade marks, service marks, trade names, and logos, including, but not limited to, the mark "MENSA" and the Mensa stylized logo, AML's copyrights, AML's membership lists, and other proprietary materials in connection with Authorized Activities, subject to the terms and conditions of the policies set by the AMC. AML retains full ownership of the trademarks, service marks, trade names, and logos recited above, as well as all statutory and common law rights therein.
 8. Materials and assistance with Local Group media and public relations.
 9. At the Local Group's option, assistance for Regional Gatherings, including listings in the *Mensa Bulletin* and on the Web site and credit card processing.
 10. At the Local Group's option, Web services including Web hosting, email aliasing, electronic email lists and discussion forums.
- B. LONESTAR MENSA, as a Local Group of AML, shall provide:
1. A membership meeting (any organized activity for the members) and a business meeting (a meeting of the governing body) in each quarter, notice for which must be communicated to the members of LONESTAR MENSA.
 2. A regular newsletter or calendar of activities to LONESTAR MENSA members at least quarterly.
 3. A minimum of three elected, voting officers, who are all current members in good standing of American Mensa, Ltd. and of the Local Group, including a Local Secretary (LocSec) or equivalently titled chief executive officer and a Treasurer. The LocSec shall be the authorized representative of LONESTAR MENSA and liaison with AML.
 4. Contact information for local officers to the general membership.
 5. One or more separately maintained bank accounts in the name of LONESTAR MENSA for Local Group funds. LONESTAR MENSA may use the IRS Tax Identification Number provided by AML or may use one obtained from the IRS specifically for the use of LONESTAR MENSA, but in no case shall LONESTAR MENSA use an individual's Social Security Number in lieu of a Tax Identification Number.
 6. Financial and other information as requested by AML for inclusion with AML's IRS Form 990. In addition, if LONESTAR MENSA is or should ever be separately incorporated or granted a tax exempt determination from the IRS, a copy of LONESTAR MENSA IRS Form 990 shall be submitted to the National Office of AML.

VII. TERM

This Charter, as created and from time to time modified by AML, shall be effective as of the date set forth above and shall remain in full force and effect, in perpetuity unless LONESTAR MENSA is dissolved by AML in accordance with any applicable *Actions Still In Effect* and the members of

LONESTAR MENSA are reassigned to one or more other Local Groups, in which case the Charter shall be revoked as of the date of dissolution.



American MENSA[®]

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February 1, 2010

Dear LocSec,

In order to formally define the relationships and expectations between AML and its Local Groups, the AMC recently agreed to approve an American Mensa Local Group Charter. Attached is the charter, customized for your Local Group. Please let us know if any of the information specific to your Local Group is inaccurate.

You do not need to sign this or have it approved by your ExComm. Just file it with your other important Local Group documents and review it periodically to confirm that you and your fellow officers understand the contents.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at heatherk@americanmensa.org or 888-294-8035 ext. 5528.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Kennedy".

Heather Kennedy
Groups Services Manager